

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**Applicants:** K. AOTA, t al.  
**Application No.:** Divisional of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/820,231, filed March 18, 1997  
**Filed:** On even date herewith  
**For:** FRICTION STIR WELDING HOLLOW FRAME MEMBER  
**Art Group in Parent:** 3635  
**Examiner in Parent:** R. Canfield

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 CFR 1.97 AND 1.98**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

June 23, 2003

Sir:

Pursuant to Applicants' duty of disclosure, enclosed please find a List, on a form substantially equivalent to Form PTO-1449, of documents cited in connection with prior applications of the above-identified application, as well as documents cited in connection with the present application and enclosed herewith. The prior application of the above-identified application, in which various of the documents on the enclosed List have been cited, is prior Application No. 08/820,231, filed March 18, 1997.

The documents being submitted herewith are the following:

- a. U.S. Patent No. 5,651,154 to Ahlskog, et al.;
- b. U.S. Patent No. 5,810,507 to Ahlskog, et al.;
- c. U.S. Patent No. 5,901,396 to Ahlskog, et al.;
- d. JP No. 9-221024; and
- e. Two (2) Office Actions dated April 11, 2001 in corresponding Australian application.

To the extent that the listed documents were cited in connection with prior Application No. 08/820,231, which is being relied upon under 35 USC §120 in the above-identified application, copies of the listed documents are not enclosed. See 37 CFR 1.98(d).

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted concurrently with the filing of the above-identified Divisional application. Accordingly, requirements of 37 CFR 1.97(d) are clearly satisfied.

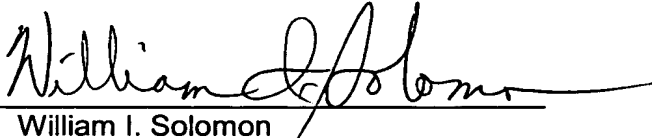
Note that various of the listed documents, which were previously submitted in Application No. 08/820,231, are discussed in Information Disclosure Statements submitted in No. 08/829,231. Reference to these Information Disclosure Statements for discussions in connection with, for example, references not in English, is respectfully requested.

In view of all of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all applicable requirements of 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98 have been satisfied, in connection with all documents on the enclosed List. Accordingly, consideration of the listed documents, upon examination of the above-identified application, is respectfully requested.

Kindly charge any additional fees due, or credit overpayment of fees, to  
Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case: 503.35255VX8).

Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP

By   
William I. Solomon  
Reg. No. 28,565

Attachments: Form PTO-1449  
Reference - 7

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>		<b>C mplet if Known</b>			
		Application Number	Not Assigned Yet		
		Filing Date	On even date herewith		
		First Named Inventor	AOTA, KINYA		
		Art Unit	3635		
Sheet	1	of	2	Examiner Name	R. Canfield
				Attorney Docket Number	503.35255VX8

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials <sup>1</sup>	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)				
		US-5,388,529	1995		Tieberghien et al.	
		US-5,979,742	1999		Enomoto et al.	
		US-3,849,871	1974		Kaunitz	
		US-5,794,835	1998		Colligan, et al.	
		US-5,460,317	1995		Thomas, et al.	
		US-5,140,913	1982		Takeichi, et al.	
		US-5,098,007	1992		Tsuruda, et al.	
		US-5,651,154	1997		Ahlskog, et al.	
		US-5,810,507	1998		Ahlskog, et al.	
		US-5,901,396	1999		Ahlskog, et al.	
		US-				
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials'	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
		JP 57-112813	1980			
		JP 54-11250	1979			
		JP 7-266068	1995			
		JP 10-216964	1998			
		JP 60-166177	1985			
		JP 51-111925	1975			
		JP 6-156272	1994			
		JP 7-33016	1996			
		JP 0 579 500 A1	1994			
		WO 93/10935	1993			
		JP 9-221024	1997			

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard St.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

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Substitute for form 1449B/PTO  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>		<b>Complete if Known</b>			
		<b>Application Number</b>	<b>Not Assigned Yet</b>		
		<b>Filing Date</b>	<b>On even date herewith</b>		
		<b>First Named Inventor</b>	<b>AOTA KINYA</b>		
		<b>Group Art Unit</b>	<b>3635</b>		
		<b>Examiner Name</b>	<b>R. Canfield</b>		
<b>Sheet</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>of</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Attorney Docket Number</b>	<b>503.35255VX8</b>

<b>OTHER PRIOR ART—NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS</b>			
<b>Examiner Initials*</b>	<b>Cite No.<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published</b>	<b>T<sup>2</sup></b>
		<b>Friction Stir Process Welds Aluminum Alloys, Welding Journal, American Welding Society, Vo. 75, No. 3 (1996)</b>	
		<b>Light Metal Welding Vol. 33, No. 7, pp. 19-26 (1995)</b>	
		<b>Two Prints dated June 23, 1993 showing details from a video from the Welding Institute</b>	
		<b>Verksstadnerna Nr 2, pp. 32 and 34 (1996)</b>	
		<b>Advanced Materials &amp; Processes, pp. 22-23, (1993)</b>	
		<b>Metalworking Technology Europe, Sterline Publication, pp. 143-145, (1994)</b>	
		<b>An Introduction to Friction Stir Welding and its Development, by CJ Dawes, Welding &amp; Metal Fabrication, pp. 13-16, (1995)</b>	

<b>Examiner Signature</b>		<b>Date Considered</b>	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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